

CLAIMS:

1. A method of making an optical product, the method comprising:
providing an optical film sheet having a first surface and a second surface,
the first surface having an array of prism elements;
laminating a protective cover sheet to the first surface of the optical film
sheet to form a web;
cutting the web to form the optical product, comprised of an optical film
and a protective cover, with a cover removal tab; and
cutting essentially only the optical film sheet of the web between the optical
product and the cover removal tab so that the cover removal tab
remains connected to the optical product by the protective cover.
2. The method of claim 1 and further comprising:
laminating a transfer tape to the second surface of the optical film sheet;
and
wherein the transfer tape is cut concurrently with the web.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the web is carried by a liner that is cut
concurrently with essentially only the optical film sheet of the web.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the optical film is a turning film.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the optical film is a multilayer optical film.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the optical film is a light directing film.

7. A method of making an optical product, the method comprising:
cutting essentially only an optical film sheet of a web comprised of the
optical film sheet and a protective cover sheet with a first die shaped
to divide an optical film and a removal tab; and
cutting the web with a second die having a shape of the optical film with
the removal tab.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein the first die and the second die cut in
opposite directions.
9. The method of claim 7 and further comprising:
attaching the web to a liner.
10. A method of making an optical product, the method comprising:
laminating a protective cover sheet to an optical film sheet to form a web;
severing the web to form the optical product, comprised of a protective
cover and an optical film, with a removal tab; and
severing, between the optical product and the removal tab, the optical film
so that the removal tab remains connected to the optical product by
the protective cover.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein removing the removal tab from the optical
product also removes the protective cover from the optical film.
12. The method of claim 10 wherein the optical film is a light directing film
having prism elements that have apex angles of about 90°.
13. The method of claim 10 wherein the optical film is a turning film.

14. The method of claim 10 wherein the optical film is a multilayer optical film.
15. An optical product with a removal tab comprising:
a protective cover stacked on an optical film, the protective cover being continuous between the optical product and the removal tab, the optical film being discontinuous between the optical product and the removal tab such that the removal tab is connected to the optical product by the protective cover.
16. The optical product with a removal tab of claim 15 and further comprising:
a transfer tape stacked underneath the optical film.
17. The optical product with a removal tab of claim 15 wherein the protective cover and the optical film have perimeters of equal size and shape, the perimeters being aligned.
18. The optical product with a removal tab of claim 15 wherein the optical film is a light directing film with prism elements having apex angles of about 90°.
19. The optical product with a removal tab of claim 15 wherein the optical film is a turning film.
20. The optical product with a removal tab of claim 15 wherein the optical film is a multilayer optical film.
21. An optical product with a removal tab comprising:
an optical product comprised of a layer of protective cover stacked on a layer of optical film, the layers having aligned edges;

a tab comprised of the layers and attached to an edge of the product such that the layer of protective cover is continuous between the product and the tab; and

a cut in the layer of optical film, the cut dividing the product and the tab such that the optical film is discontinuous between the product and the tab.

22. The optical product with a removal tab of claim 21 wherein the optical product is shaped for use in an optical display.

23. The optical product with a removal tab of claim 21 wherein the tab and the layer of protective cover of the optical product are removable from the layer of optical film of the product.